REMARKS

Applicant's claim 12 is amended from grammatical reasons to add "and" to the series of steps. Claim 4 is amended to indicate that the change in color after addressing is to a different color. While it is obvious that this was the case since it changes color the amendment it is added in the interest of clarity. There is no new subject matter being claimed that would require a new search by these amendments. It is therefore requested that if the examiner persists in the rejection that these amendment be entered for purposes of appeal

Applicant's claims are rejected based on a single reference of Cook (Publication No. 2004/0025057). The Cook reference is for a different method and for a different purpose than that of applicant. The reference is for a message forwarding system to provide a secure E-mail service. The service is operable to receive an E-mail message temporarily in storage and a check for recipient preferences for delivery. If a web based delivery is specified the system provides an E-mail notification to the recipient including a secure link to the recipient including extracting the message from storage, formatting the message as a page and delivering the page to the recipient's browser.

Applicant's system is for providing an improved E-mail system to prevent the author from mistakenly sending unfinished letters and from mistakenly sending messages to the wrong parties. These steps are all done to aid the original sender at the message generating stage. To accomplish this, the method includes the steps of requiring added steps of proofreading of the draft and acknowledgement of the proofreading and signing that the draft was proofread and approved before permitting the author or sender from

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addressing of the message and further only after addressing the message, checking the address and signing the draft permitting sending of the E-mail.

Claim 1, as amended, calls for "A method of generating an E-mail message comprising the steps of: generating a draft of the message, proofreading the draft of the message and acknowledging message is proofread and finished, signing the draft, only after signing the draft and acknowledging proofread and finished permitting addressing of the message, performing checking of the address and only after addressing the message and performing checking of the address and signing the draft permitting sending the E-mail."

It is not seen where the above is taught or even suggested in the recited paragraphs or anywhere in the Cook reference. The examiner has referenced the abstract, paragraphs [0046]-[0049], [0071-0073], [0092], [0104], [0115] and [0146]. The examiner has stated that these paragraphs support what is claimed but do not. The abstract describes a forwarding service operable to receive an E-mail message already generated and delivered to a forwarding service for delivery to a recipient, store the message and to check for recipient preferences for delivery of the E-mail. There is nothing about the applicant's claimed steps for the original generation of the message. The Cook reference is about a secure message forwarding system and detecting recipient's preferences for delivery of the message. The only reference in Cook to the sender would be to the generic reference to sender 102 and to the steps shown in Figure 1 at sender 102. Paragraph 0046 references any generic E-mail application, paragraph 0047 describes a wrapping application 128 to wrap a secure E-mail application and apply a signature that can be verified by a recipient. The wrapping application includes a signing process and

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encryption process. The signing process receives as an input a user signature phrase which is used to decrypt the user's private keys. The wrapping step also includes forwarding. There is nothing about proofreading the draft of the message and acknowledging message is proofread and finished by the author or for that matter any sender. There is nothing in the Cook reference about only after signing the draft and acknowledging proofread and finished permitting addressing of the message. There is no restriction in Cook on addressing in the reference. It is not seen where Cook teaches performing an automatic checking of the address after addressing the message and permitting sending of the E-mail only after receiving an acknowledgement of correct addressing. It is not seen where this is discussed in the other paragraphs referenced. Paragraph 0048 discusses viewer 130 to view the secure transmission which includes a verification process and a decryption process. This is to verify the authentication of the signatures. Paragraph 0049 discusses the signature manager for managing the encryption keys for the user.

Paragraph 0071 discusses processing requests from a recipient and the SSL protocol ensuring privacy between a client and a server using certificates to authenticate the server and the client. It does not teach applicant's above cited process steps. Paragraph 0072 describes the forwarding engine to ensure that the requests from the recipients are valid. Paragraph 0073 discusses encryption/decryption protocol.

Paragraph 0092 mentions a send process 248 in Fig. 2b with an initialization routine 247. In paragraph 0093 the reference mentions the body of the message is produced and attachments are identified but it goes no further than to assume a standard E-mail program and not applicant's claimed steps.

Paragraph 0104 discusses a view process where the wrapper is opened using convention E-mail application. The viewer decrypts the message and verifies the sender's signature. This is the view process by a fully configured recipient. Paragraph 0115 discusses a process for creating an authorization pass phrase. It requests the user to enter an E-mail address and an authorization phrase. Upon receipt of the E-mail address and authorization phrase, a confirming E-mail message is sent to the user. The E-mail prompts the user to send a confirmation message to the forwarding service. The forwarding service receives the confirmation and "activates" user's E-mail address including storing the authorization pass phrase in a respective location in the access list in an entry associated with the user. Paragraph 0146 discusses an implementation where each time a message is retrieved from a forwarding service a receipt can be generated that can be picked up by the sender. None of these references discuss or teach about proofreading the draft of the message and acknowledging message is proofread and finished. There is nothing about only after signing the draft and acknowledging proofread and finished permitting addressing of the message. It is not seen where performing an automatic checking of the address after addressing the message or permitting sending of the E-mail only after receiving an acknowledgement of correct addressing. The examiner takes the position that the steps are only acknowledging messages but that is not the case and that is not what is claimed.

The reference does not teach or suggest the claimed different system checks before sending the message. The checks of proofing of the draft and acknowledgement the message is proofread and finished before signing the draft, of only after signing the draft and acknowledging proofread and finished permitting addressing of the message

and further performing checking of the address and only after addressing the message and performing checking of the address and signing the draft permitting sending the E-mail.

The Cook reference does not teach how to overcome the problems of preventing sending unfinished letters by the author and preventing sending messages to the wrong parties by the address checking taught by applicant. The signing in the reference is used for the encryption. Applicant's claimed invention is not about encryption. As stated on page 3, right column, last paragraph 0047 or the reference, the signing process 150 receives as an input a user signature phrase which is used to decrypt the user's private keys. There is no teaching in the reference of only permitting addressing after signing the draft and acknowledging the message is proofread and finished. Further there is no checking of addressing and signing before sending the E-mail. Clearly, applicant's claimed invention is not taught or even suggested by the Cook reference. Claim 1, as amended, is therefore deemed allowable. There is no way in which there is a complete description of applicant's invention or claimed invention is described in the reference. This is a first requirement for a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). It is not seen where the reference would be obvious in view of the Cook reference.

Claims 2-11 dependent on claim 1 are deemed allowable for at least the same reasons as amended claim 1.

Claim 12 calls for "A method of generating an E-mail message comprising the steps of: drafting a text message by an author on a display screen; requiring an acknowledgment that the draft of the message is proofread and finished by the author; only after acknowledging the message is proofread and finished permitting addressing of the message, addressing the message; performing an automatic checking of the address

after addressing the message; and permitting sending of the E-mail only after receiving an acknowledgement of correct addressing."

For reasons similar to that discussed above applicant's Claim 12 is deemed allowable. The Cook reference does not teach "requiring an acknowledgment that the draft of the message is proofread and finished by the author." The reference does not teach "only after acknowledging the message is proofread and finished permitting addressing of the message." The reference does not teach "performing an automatic checking of the address after addressing the message." The reference does not teach "permitting sending of the E-mail only after receiving an acknowledgement of correct addressing." Claim 12 is therefore deemed allowable over the references.

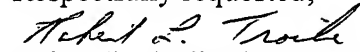Claims 13-20 dependent on claim 12 are deemed allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 12.

Claim 4 further calls for the draft changing color after signing the draft in claim 3 and the draft changing color again after addressing. This is not taught in the reference in paragraphs 0123-0026 or anywhere else. In paragraph 122 there is discussed a series of visual indicators 900 in Fig. 4a to indicate the status of the verification process. The draft does not change color. There is a traffic light symbol 900 to indicate by green light only a valid signature (paragraph 0123), yellow and green light that the signature is mathematically valid, public key of sender was valid at the time sent but now out of date (paragraph 0124), yellow light only that the signature is mathematically valid, but the connection to the key server is not functioning and the recipient computer cannot connect (paragraph 0125) and red light only all other conditions not listed above, including no key posted, no match of the public key with e-mail address, tampering has occurred,

message was signed after the key has been deactivated, etc. The referenced paragraphs do not teach changing color of the draft after signing and do not teach anything about separately changing the draft color after addressing.

Claim 18 is deemed allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 12 and for at least the same reasons as claim 13 and further calls for after signing the draft, the draft changes color. There is no changing color of the draft in the reference. There is nothing about an acknowledgement of proofreading and finished by the author signing the draft.

In view of the above applicants Claims 1-20, as amended, are deemed allowable and an early notice of allowance of these claims is deemed in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully requested;

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